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***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

*Customer No.* 23643  
*Group:* 1764  
*Confirmation No.:* 9235  
*Application No.:* 10/692,840  
*Invention:* APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
OPERATING A FUEL REFORMER  
SO AS TO PURGE SOOT THEREFROM  
*Applicant:* Rudolf M. Smaling et al.  
*Filed:* October 24, 2003  
*Attorney*  
*Docket:* 9501-70665  
*Examiner:* Kaity V. Handal

**DATED: JANUARY 10, 2007**

**AMENDMENT**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated October 12, 2006, please consider the following:

**Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.**

**Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.**

OK to  
enter  
2/7/07